view the fact that NTC (APKK&M) with all its mills stood referred to BIFR, a conscious decision was taken to allow VRS in these mills in case majority of the workers wanted to opt for VRS.

Tackling the Sickness of NTC Units

2281. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any plan to tackle the sickness problem of NTC units;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) what are the number of NTC units which are now closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) On the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norms of net worth of these mills turning positive within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the Revival Plan.

(c) Except Ajudhia Textile Mills which was closed in pursuance of order of Hon'ble Supreme Court on polluting industries no other NTC mills has been closed though some of the mills are not operating.

Export of Readymade Garments

†2282. PROF. RAM BAKHSH SINGH VARMA:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of readymade garments are being exported by India to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of those countries where these items are being exported;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether huge foreign currency is likely to be earned through exports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The export of readymade garments during the year 1999 was US$ 5323.5 million. This foreign exchange earned is approximately 14% of the total foreign exchange earned through exports by India. The major countries/regions of export are European Union, U.S.A., Canada, Japan, U.A.E. and Switzerland.

Satyam Committee Report

†2283. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Satyam Committee has recommended to Government to curtail the assistance being extended to the weavers under Handloom Reservation Act and Hank Yarn Obligation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that no representation of handloom industry had been nominated in the said committee;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether handloom weavers have opposed these recommendations; and

(f) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (f) An Expert Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S.R. Sathyam to, inter-alia, review the impact of the existing Textile Policy and suggest policy measures for the industry to focus on changes resulting from over-all trade policy reforms. The Committee has since submitted its report. The Committee drew its recommendations after extensive discussions with the representative of different organisations including handloom sector. Development Commissioner (Handloom) was also

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.